10/21/66

Dear Jerry,

If Harper's phone me this morning, I'll let you know by means of this letter. It is now early. Soon we're to do the grocery shopping but we'll be back not long after the late beginning of the New York publishing day, and I expect to be home the rest of the day.

I have knocked out a letter to that cereal-box Cantte (as I called him) Norman Cousins. If you will return them, I'll send you a copy of both this and the one to Fein. I do not think either is often talked to as I did, and I don't think either will have adequate answer.

Enclosed is a copy of the letter I told you I wrote Harper's a year ago. I do not want it to go any further than your friend at Harper's, and I would like you to return it as soon as you can.

We were delayed getting home because we took my mother-in-law and aunt and they suddenly went off on the town with a wedding and a shower pending and pennies to save. I was about 11 when we returned, so I do not know whether there was a call. There is an order for WHITEWASH II, however- three of them for a Phila bookstore. Backordering already.

This morning's Post has a story I've not read but been told about, Wesley Liebeler leading a study group at UCal on the Warren Report. Want a quote about the wolf tending sheep or the accused sitting in the judge's seat?

A college kid in Oregon has ordered 56 copies of WHITEWASH, sold all of them to bookstores, gotten it mentioned in two papers and on a radio program, all his own idea! He reports in today's mail. Wonderful kids. I've been asked ~~(- and accepted)~~ to have a bull-session with some Washington (DC) law students, but whoever answers the phone for Richard Starnes, Scripps-Howard columnist. Wild, isn't it. I shall, of course, and I'll try and do it on tape, entirely unrehearsed.

Anent our discussion of the morals of the business, yesterday we got a check from a wholesaler for orders going back to June. He took 2% for cash. In the same mail was a check and a letter from a woman who but 7 days earlier had ordered two copies COD. As usual, we sent these books not COD, which is troublesome for us and costly to the prucahser, but with a bill. We always get paid. She bought these books for a son and a daughter as birthday presents, and she was surprised at being trusted. Also happy. But what a commentary on our times.

Best,